Railway apprentices courses of officers

1871. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the requirement of officers for all the zonal Railways for which the Railways conduct apprentice courses;

(b) if so, what is the extent of requirement generated during the last 3 years and to what extent they could be filled by the Railway trained apprentices; and

(c) whether there is a need to expand the existing training facilities to cope with the growing demand of the Railways; if so, what action is proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) Only in Mechanical Department of the Indian Railways, the requirement of officers is partly met by recruitment as Apprentices. Such assessment is done annually for the Indian Railways as a whole.

(b) Every year, the assessment to be filled by this mode is worked out taking into account various factors including the actual materialisation in the previous year. Thus the assessments made in the years 1985, 1986, 1987 were 20, 27 & 29 respectively. Recruitments were accordingly processed and any shortfalls due to medical unfitness etc. carried forward to the next year.

(c) Adequate training facilities are available to cater for the present requirement.

School for the Children of Railway Employees

1872. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways have formulated any plan for the education of children of railway employees all over the country;

(b) if so, what are the criteria evolved to locate schools run by the railways at less important railway stations where the children do not get an alternative source of good education;

(c) what is the total number of schools which are now being run by the railways and whether they are mostly clustered in urban areas;

(d) if not, what is the urban-rural breakup of such schools; and

(e) what is the number of schools proposed to be set up during the next two years—with their locations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) Provision of educational facilities is primarily the task of State Government|Union Ministry of Human Resource Development. However, Railways have provided purely as a welfare measure, a large number of Railway Schools at different stations, where there is concentration of Railway employees to meet their needs, and where such facilities are not available or are found inadequate, subject to availability of funds. In addition, Kendriya Vidayalayas in Railway colonies have been set up.

(c) Total number of schools run by the Railways is 684. These schools are not mostly clustered in urban areas.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) There is no proposal to set up new Railway Schools. Efforts are being made to establish Kendriya Vidyalayas.

Passenger facilities in trains

1873. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the scales prescribed for providing facilities in first class

AC 2-tier and in second class 3-tier coaches.

(b) whether any survey has been made to ensure that these facilities have been duly provided in the Northern, Southern, Central and Western Railways and whether any deficiencies have come to Government's notice.

(c) What is the number of cases of lack of basic amenities like drinking water, water in the toilets, lights during night and availability of wholesome food on the way-side stations have come to the knowledge of Government; and

(d) what are the details of steps taken to remove these difficulties faced by the travelling passengers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) The scales prescribed for passenger amenities for different classes generally are as per Statement. [*See* Appendix CXLVII, Anexure No. 76].

(b) As per extent rules, all coaches before starting at the terminal points are examined for deficient passenger amenities and replacements arranged. However, sometimes due to vandalism, theft and pilferage, the replacement needs outstrip the availability of amenity spares and coaches run temporarily in the same condition.

(c) The statistics are maintained by Railways under the following heads:—

(i) Non-availability of water at Stations.

(ii) Maintenance of coaches including cleanliness of coaches and water in coaches.

(iii) Functioning of electrical equipment including lights, fans, AC plants, etc.

(iv) Catering and Vending Services. The details of complaints received for Northern, Southern, Central and Western Railways under the above categories for the months January to March, 1988 are as per Statement (*See* below).

(d) Some of the steps taken to further improve the services in these areas are:—

(i) All possible efforts are made to provide adequate water resources;

(ii) Where Railway sources are used, adequate standby pumps are provided;

(iii) Wherever possible diesel standby pumps are provided, in case of electric failure;

(iv) Watering of trains at terminals and at enroute nominated stations is being ensured and is backed with an efficient record keeping system.

(v) Arrangements for supply of drinking water at stations and on some of the superfast trains.

(vi) In addition to preventive maintenance electrical repair staff are provided at important junctions/ stations for attention of complaints enroute.

(vii) To ensure hygienic availability of food casserole packet system, have been introduced, base kitchens moderanised and the close supervision exercised on vendors.

(viii) Mobile cleaning gangs are provided on nominated trains and stationary staff provided at important junctions.

(ix) To ensure prompt redressal of complaints Assistance Booths have been opened at important stations.

Statement

Complaints received for the quarter ending March, 1988

Details of complaints	Central Railway	Northern Railway	Southern Railway	Western Railway
1. Non-availability of water	21	26	3	17
2. Catering & Vending Services . . .	90	69	32	23
3. Maintenance of coaches, including cleanliness in coaches and water in coaches etc.	29	41	25	15
4. Functioning of Electrical Equipment (including Lights, Fans, AC Plant etc.	40	31	5	10

Recruitment of pilots without examination and test by IA and AI

1874. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:
SHRI SURESH KALMADI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Times of India dated the 16th July, 1988 to the effect that Indian Airlines has recently recruited 12 pilots without examination and proper test;

(b) whether it is a fact that Air India has also absorbed 7 pilots who do not have the requisite experience;

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry into this matter; if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines as a result of campus interview have recruited 12 Trainee Pilots without conducting written test. These trainee pilots are undergoing training at present.

(b) to (d) Air India has recruited 7 Trainee Pilots, and not regular pilots, under the new scheme for recruitment of Trainee Pilots from IGRUA, without making departure from their regular method and qualifications prescribed for recruitment of Air Transport Pilot's Licence holders.

Ban on recruitment in the Indian Airlines and Air India

1875. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:
SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Managements of the Indian Airlines and Air India have put a complete ban on recruitment through direct selection;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a large number of employees are recruited on daily wage/temporary basis as Peons, Typists and Steno-Typists by Indian Airlines and Air India;

(c) if so, the number of employees reruicted on temporary basis during the last one year; and

(d) whether Government propose to remove the ban on the recruitment